

None



COMPTROLLER GENERAL OF THE UNITED STATES  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20548

July 25, 1972

TO THE HEADS OF ALL EXECUTIVE, LEGISLATIVE AND JUDICIAL  
DEPARTMENTS AND ESTABLISHMENTS

SUBJECT: Maurice H. Stans Award for Distinguished Federal  
Financial Management

The second Annual Maurice H. Stans Award for Distinguished Federal Financial Management will be presented at a one-day financial management conference planned for January 31, 1973, in Washington, D. C. This is the only award specifically directed to excellence in Federal financial management sponsored officially by the Federal Government. The award recognizes exceptional accomplishment in the application of effective financial management and will be presented to one Federal career employee and one Federal noncareer employee.

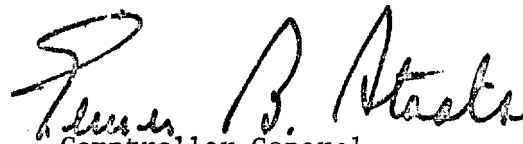
The Principals of the Joint Financial Management Improvement Program--the Secretary of the Treasury; the Comptroller General; the Chairman of the Civil Service Commission; and the Director, Office of Management and Budget--administer this awards program.

Heads of all departments and agencies have the opportunity to nominate one career employee and one noncareer employee whose achievements during Fiscal Year 1972 represent the most outstanding contributions to improved Federal financial management in their agency. An employee need not be presently employed by the agency to be nominated, but must have been employed during Fiscal Year 1972 to be eligible. For purposes of this announcement, a noncareer employee shall be considered as any employee who served in an excepted position, and is not subject to merit staffing procedures, irrespective of the origin of appointment or previous status as career employee. An example of a noncareer employee in a department would be the Assistant Secretary for Administration.

Criteria and format for nominations are set forth in the attached brochure.

Departments and agency heads are requested to submit nominations for these awards not later than September 15, 1972. Six copies of each nomination in the prescribed format should be submitted to:

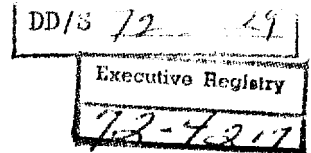
Mr. Bertram H. Rosen, Executive Secretary  
Joint Financial Management Improvement Program  
Room 6114, U.S. General Accounting Office  
Washington, D. C. 20548

  
Comptroller General  
of the United States

Attachment



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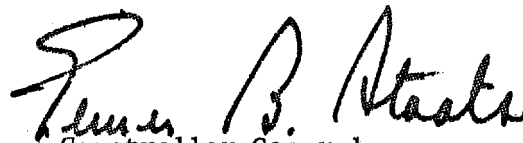
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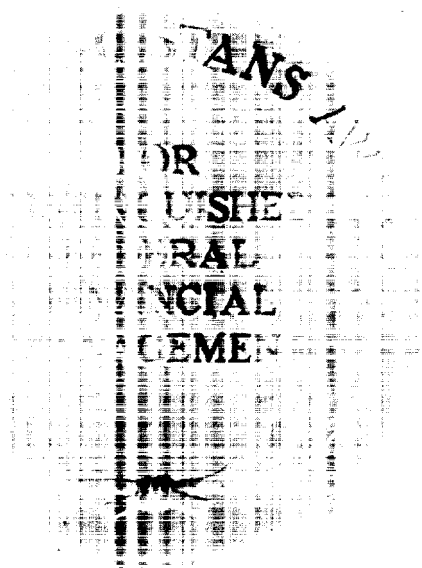
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**THE  
MAURICE H. STANS  
AWARD  
FOR DISTINGUISHED FEDERAL  
FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT**



**SPONSORED BY THE JOINT FINANCIAL  
MANAGEMENT IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM**

## **SPONSORSHIP AND SELECTION OF RECIPIENTS**

The Joint Financial Management Improvement Program (JFMIP) sponsors the awards and its principals select the recipients. Begun in 1948, by agreement among the Comptroller General, the Secretary of the Treasury and the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, the JFMIP seeks improved means of carrying out the interrelated activities and responsibilities of these central agencies. It also seeks to improve coordination of the financial management activities of the operating agencies. The Budget and Accounting Procedures Act of 1950 gave legal sanction to this working arrangement. Recognizing the need for recruiting, classifying and training qualified personnel, the Chairman of the Civil Service Commission was added to the Joint Program in 1966.

Although concepts and techniques of financial management continuously change, the Joint Program's overall goal has remained essentially the same over the years: to promote the improvement of financial management practices throughout the Federal Government in a way which best serves the needs of the Congress and the executive branch.

Coordination of Government-wide projects and promotion of financial management improvements in the operating agencies is achieved through a Steering Committee composed of a representative from each of the four central agencies. In addition, each operating agency designates a representative to act as liaison with the Steering Committee.

B. Specific accomplishments are those for which the nominee is primarily responsible and where the results can be measured in terms of improvement in service, a substantial savings or significant technological progress. Some examples of specific accomplishments are:

- Development of a financial system which furnishes full cost support, on an accrual basis, for cost-based budgeting.
- Implementation of a unified financial management information and control system which results in significant improvement in total management effectiveness.
- Providing of the overall leadership in developing and implementing a major financial management training and improvement program relating to varying levels of responsibility and designed to meet both short- and long-term agency objectives.
- Establishment of a comprehensive audit system based on improved and more reliable sampling methods which contribute to substantial cost savings and increased audit coverage.
- Development of maximum ADP utilization techniques and common service concepts to meet increasing workload with available resources.
- Formulation of a fully integrated program structure which provides for the systematic interpretation of output and performance data in terms of unit costs.
- Conduct of an agency-wide analysis of cash management operations resulting in significant improvements in control, reporting and the setting of requirement levels.
- Development of a planning level review and analysis system which forms the basis for significantly increased effectiveness in resource control and allocation.

**FORM OF NOMINATION** — Nominations of one Federal career employee and one non-career employee will be accepted from heads of each Federal department and independent agency. The following information should be submitted for each nominee:

- Name, title and grade.
- Business address and telephone number.
- Residence address and telephone number.
- Chronology of Federal service.
- Date and place of birth.
- Education and degrees (show names of schools).

This should be followed by a narrative description of the nominee's qualifications for the award, together with the agency or department head's personal evaluation and recommendation.



The interests and programs of the Federal Government may at times seem boundless. Reflecting as they do the vast and varied concerns of the Nation itself, the diversity of Government programs and the problems they deal with, they may often seem to defy rational cataloging. All of the undertakings of Government, however, have one thing in common, they function on money and they share the responsibility for managing it wisely.

The demands of Government clearly reveal that our national life today is more directly affected and more sharply influenced than ever before by the manner in which we allocate our resources and manage our financial interests. The rapid growth of Government has increased the necessity for wisdom and restraint in the management of public funds. Skilled and resourceful financial management has become fundamental to the national welfare. The Budget and Accounting Procedures Act of 1950 evidenced these essentials by requiring that "the Comptroller General of the United States, the Secretary of the Treasury, and the Director of the Bureau of the Budget conduct a continuous program for the improvement of accounting and financial reporting in the Government." This effort, known as the Joint Financial Management Improvement Program, now includes the Chairman of the Civil Service Commission as well.

During a lifetime spent both in public service and private business I have been primarily concerned with financial affairs. Over the years that I have been privileged to serve in the Post Office Department, in the Bureau of the Budget (now the Office of Management and Budget) and the Department of Commerce, I have seen dramatic increases occur in the demands made upon financial management, and in the great and growing value of this function to the Government and to the people.

The purpose of establishing this award is to give appropriate recognition to the men and women in financial service who meet the continuing call for growth and achievement in this vital and critical field. Their contributions represent the best interests of our Nation and deserve the fullest expression of encouragement and appreciation.

I am pleased to assist in according them the recognition to which they are entitled.

*Mannix H. Stans*

## **MAURICE H. STANS AWARD FOR DISTINGUISHED FEDERAL FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT**

**PURPOSE** — The purpose of this award is to give public recognition to Federal employees who through the practice of effective financial management have achieved significant economies, efficiencies and improvements in the Federal Government. Financial management is that part of total management which is concerned with the financial affairs of an organization.

**TYPE OF AWARD** — Awards will be made annually with appropriate ceremony and will consist of a plaque and a gold lapel pin. Normally, one award will be presented to a Federal career employee and one to a Federal non-career employee.

**ELIGIBILITY** — Any employee of the Federal Government is eligible to be nominated for the award whose personal competence and leadership have resulted in notably exceptional accomplishments in the application of effective financial management. One or more nominees may be submitted if such nominees were equally responsible for the accomplishment.

**BASIS FOR SELECTION** — For purposes of this award the broadest reasonable interpretation will be given to the term "financial management," which includes, but is not limited to, the areas of:

- Accounting
- Auditing
- Automatic Data Processing
- Budgeting
- Cash Management
- Control and Allocation of Resources
- Cost Reduction
- Financial Systems Development
- Management Analysis
- Planning
- Reporting — Financial and Performance

In evaluating nominations, consideration will be given to both general and specific accomplishments:

**A. General accomplishments** include outstanding administrative or technical ability or outstanding performance evidenced by the nominee, not necessarily connected with a specific accomplishment or project.